



03500.015757.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KATSUTOSHI MISUDA ET AL.) : Examiner: Betelhem Shewareged
Application No.: 10/787,080) : Group Art Unit: 1774
Filed: February 27, 2004) :
For: RECORDING MEDIUM, IMAGE) :
FORMING PROCESS USING THE :
RECORDING MEDIUM AND) :
PRODUCTION PROCESS OF THE : May 15, 2006
RECORDING MEDIUM) (Monday)

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed foreign documents are also enclosed.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 5-124331 discloses a recording medium comprising a substrate containing a pigment and a binder in the surface of the substrate, wherein the binder contains at least a water-soluble polyester. It is disclosed in Examples 6 to 9 that alumina (AKP-G, average particle size: 0.5 μm) is used for the pigment of the

upper ink receiving layer. The “AKP-G” is aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure.

This document discloses a recording medium in which aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure having an average particle size of 0.5 μm are used for the pigment of the ink receiving layer, but does not teach or suggest grinding aluminum oxide particles having the γ -crystal structure and removing a coarse particle component to adjust the particle size within a particular range.

Japanese Patent Document No. 8-207431 discloses an ink jet recording medium comprising a coating layer containing alumina and an adhesive, and a coating layer containing a resin thereon. It is disclosed therein that the particle size of the alumina is 0.05 to 10 μm or so. It is disclosed in the Examples that the lower layer includes alumina (AKP-G015 etc.). The “AKP-G015” is aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure. This document discloses that the lower layer includes aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure, but does not teach or suggest that the upper layer includes alumina.

Japanese Patent Document No. 8-230311 discloses a recording medium comprising a substrate and a coating layer provided thereon mainly comprised of a pigment and a binder, in which the coating layer is subjected to gloss treatment for the surface thereof. It is disclosed therein that one or more coating layer(s) may be provided. It is disclosed in the Examples that alumina (AKP-G030) is used for the lower layer. The “AKP-G030” is aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure. This discloses that the lower layer includes aluminum oxide particles of γ -crystal structure, but does not teach or suggest that the upper layer includes alumina.

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,741,584 and 6,096,157 are counterparts to JP 8-207431.

U.S. Patent No. 5,561,454 is a counterpart to JP 5-124331.

FEE

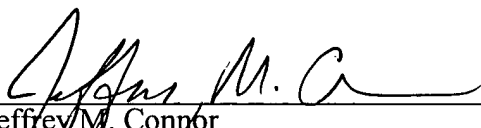
Enclosed is a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2).

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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